cepted office from Andrew Johnson's hands on Andrew John-
son's terms to take the place of an officeholder dismissed for
fidelity to his principles, he could not be forgiven. The so-
called " bread-and-butter-brigade " was looked down upon with
a contempt that could hardly be expressed in words.

But there were more serious things to inflame the temper
of the North. The Southern whites again proved themselves
their own worst enemies. Early in May news came from Mem-
phis of riots in which twenty-four negroes were killed and
one white man wounded. TJhe conclusion lay near and was
generally accepted that the whites had been the aggressors and
the negroes the victims. In the last days of July more por-
tentous tidings arrived from New Orleans. An attempt was
m'ade by Union men to revive the constitutional convention of
1864 for the purpose of remodeling the constitution of the
States. The attempt was of questionable legality, but, if wrong,
it could easily have been foiled by legal and peaceable means.
The municipal government of New Orleans was in possession
of the ex-Confederates. It resolved that the meeting of the
remnant of the convention should not be held. When it did
meet, the police, consisting in an overwhelming majority of ex-
Confederate soldiers, aided by a white mob, broke into the hall
and fired upon those assembled there. The result was thirty-
seven negroes killed and one hundred and nineteen wounded,—

and of three of the white Union men killed and seventeen wounded—against one of the assailants killed and ten wounded. General Sheridan, the commander of the Department, telegraphed General Grant: "It was no riot; it was an absolute massacre by the police which was not excelled in murderous cruelty by that of Fort Pillow. It was a murder which the Mayor and the police of this city perpetrated without the shadow of necessity.'[9] A tremor of horror and rage ran over